

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Andrew M. Rudoff)	Confirmation No.: NYA
)	
Serial No.: 10/618,135)	Examiner: NYA
)	
Filed on: July 11, 2003)	Group Art Unit No.: NYA
)	

For: MECHANISM FOR REPLICATING AND MAINTAINING FILES IN A SPACE-EFFICIENT MANNER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

- X 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes one of the following:
- A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)
- 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

_____ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following:

_____ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

_____ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR

_____ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

AND

_____ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

_____ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

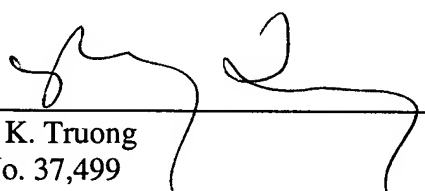
- (1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: October 20, 2003



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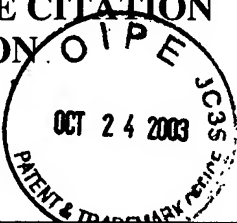
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
October 21, 2003.
(Date of Deposit)

Annette Jacobs

(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)



(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 15437-0576	SERIAL NO. 10/618,135
	APPLICANT: Andrew M. Rudoff		
	FILING DATE: July 11, 2003		GROUP: NYA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (If known)			
		6,473,775 B1		Kusters et al.	10/29/02	
		6,460,054 B1		Grummon	10/1/02	
		5,819,292		Hitz et al.	10/6/98	
		6,341,341 B1		Grummon et al.	1/22/02	
		6,553,391 B1		Golding et al.	4/22/03	
		6,539,381 B1		Prasad et al.	3/25/03	
		6,389,423 B1		Sakakura	5/14/02	
		6,269,431 B1		Dunham	7/31/01	
		5,813,017		Morris	9/22/98	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD- YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				

OTHER ART – NO PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation ²
		Network Appliance Technical Report 3002 (Rev. C 3/95), entitled "File System Design for an NFS File Server Appliance", by Dave Hitz, et al., dated 1/19/94.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.